

Selectmen's minutes of meeting Feb. 13, 2017

Members present: Jeff Gray, John Skrip, Bob O'Brien, Willie Morales,
Dolores Harasyko

Members absent: Alice Boyd

Called to order at 7:00 p.m.

It is with deep respect that we acknowledge the Mahican Tribe, the pathfinders of our community.

Ron Bernard present representing the Historical Commission. He presented the Heritage Hero Award for historic restoration efforts to Steven and Christine Pincus at 231 Sandisfield Rd.

Bob presented highway dept. updates. They have been dealing with snow and ice. John asked about the equipment. Bob responded that the plow cable broke on Davids truck, they did a temporary fix which failed, Ralphs truck has problems and is down, and the plow on the Dodge is not working. Jeff reviewed communication issues. Bob has not been answering the town cell phone. Jeff reiterated that during bad weather Bob needs to be available even if there is a meeting scheduled. Bob was at a Complete Streets meeting during the ice event and the Otis Highway and Mass State Police were unable to reach him.

Willie asked that the highway department go on record regarding the alternative route for the Route 57 bridge which is River Road that no tractor trailers use the alternative route. Bob stated that there are no tractor trailers using that route.

Motion by John, second by Jeff to appoint Kim Spring as the Animal Control Officer.

Motion by John, second by Jeff to accept the letter of resignation from Sandra Snyder from School Committee.

Willie reviewed Chapter 39, section 16 regarding the Finance Committee roll in the budget process. In the absence of a description in the town's bylaw the Finance Committee is responsible for the budget, the selectmen are responsible for the warrant.

Jeff reviewed his concerns regarding New Hartford Road and for giving the fire/emt compensation a raise mid year. He feels the town voted on an hourly rate last May and it should not be increased until the voters have a chance to vote on it next May. The raise was given during a Selectmen's meeting. Willie explained that the compensation raise will stay within the parameters of their annual budget.

John met with shared services communities over the possibility of sharing people. Continues to work on Complete Streets and the Master Plan.

Next Tuesday is the special town meeting.

Willie shared a compliment he received from Terry Ignace for the highway department.

Mail reviewed

Warrants reviewed and signed

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Alice Boyd

Jeff Gray

John Skrip